

REMARKS

By this amendment, claim 1 has been amended to include AAV structural proteins that include at least one mutation, wherein the mutated structural protein is capable of particle formation, and the mutation(s) bring(s) about an increase in the infectivity of the AAV, and further where the mutation(s) is/are located in a surface-located portion or at the N-terminus of the structural protein.

As indicated in Applicants' Reply, this claim is free of the prior art because the cited reference Mamounas does not teach a mutated structural protein that is capable of particle formation. This claim is also free of the written description rejection because it includes both structural and functional characteristics for the claimed structural proteins.

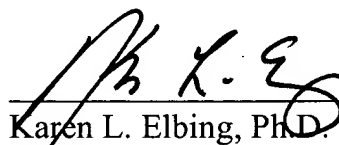
Support for the amendment to claim 1 is found in original claims 2 and 3. No new matter has been added by this amendment.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that the claims are now in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested. If there are any charges or any credits, please apply them to Deposit Account No. 03-2095.

Respectfully submitted,

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